



# SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

Oregon State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Salem, OR

## NEWS RELEASE

February 5, 2013

CONTACT: Tom Powers (503) 986-1074  
[tom.powers@state.or.us](mailto:tom.powers@state.or.us)

### **Senate Democrats Release 2013 Legislative Agenda**

*Priorities Include Education Investment and Getting People Back to Work*

SALEM – The Oregon Senate Democrats released their 2013 Legislative Agenda this morning at a press conference at the State Capitol.

“It’s time to get to work on the priorities that unite Oregon,” said Senate Majority Leader Diane Rosenbaum (D-Portland). “The Senate Democrats’ legislative agenda stands up for parents, small business owners, students, and those still trying to find a job in this recovering economy.”

Senator Diane Rosenbaum, Sen. Alan Bates (D-Medford), and Sen. Arnie Roblan (D-Coos Bay) were joined at the news conference by Hillsboro parent Nina Carlson and Western Oregon University student Sarah Kathrein.

The Senate Democrats agenda includes proposals to make college more affordable, expand career training opportunities, increase available industrial lands, and review tax credits to ensure they are reaching their intended purpose by creating jobs and stimulating the economy.

The 2013 agenda focuses on three key areas:

- Championing the needs of small businesses;
- Investing in excellent public education and career training; and,
- Improving government accountability and responsiveness to protect vital services for working families.

“This agenda really speaks to the concerns we hear from everyday Oregonians,” said Bates. “We will stand up for the middle class by getting them back to work, helping them keep their homes, and investing in quality public education.”

Carlson and Kathrein traveled to the Capitol to add their support to the proposals advanced in the agenda.

“In order for my son to get the education that he will need to succeed, we need to make more funding available for our schools,” said Carlson. “Quality, inspired teachers make the difference in helping our children reach their potential, and keeping teachers in the classroom is a top priority.”

“The Senate Democrats’ agenda will prepare more students for college and prioritize job-skills training programs that help get people back to work,” said Kathrein. “I believe that giving students better access to higher education and job skills training will prepare Oregon for a stronger tomorrow.”

Rosenbaum, Bates, and Roblan stressed their commitment to work across the aisle and with the House and Governor to find solutions to problems that Oregonians care most about.

“The session ahead presents an opportunity to act on issues that are important to Oregonians like Nina and Sarah,” said Rosenbaum. “They are counting us to act on their priorities this session, and our agenda will serve as the road map to deliver results.”

To view the complete Senate Democrats’ 2013 Agenda, click [here](#).

###